FALL EDITION 2025

LAKESHORE LIGHT

Roosevelt PTO raised over $27,000 for their 3rd annual Color Run Fundraiser!
See page 6.

We are grateful for the financial support of the LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION and for the efforts of the LEF all-volunteer board.

Grounded in Tradition – Committed to Excellence

Message from the Superintendent

Artificial Intelligence in Education at Lakeshore Public Schools

Superintendent Greg Eding

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has quickly become an integral part of our society and, by extension, our educational system. At Lakeshore Public Schools, we are taking a proactive yet thoughtful approach to integrating these emerging tools. Our focus is on how AI can ethically and effectively enhance student learning and staff productivity, while establishing clear expectations and policies for responsible use.

Over the past year, a team of Lakeshore teachers and administrators developed an AI policy for our middle and high schools that promotes responsible and ethical use. This policy provides guidance for how AI can be appropriately integrated into classrooms. By fostering a culture of innovation, our district aims to prepare students for a future shaped by technology while maintaining human connection and sound teaching as the foundation of learning.

To ensure our staff is well-equipped to lead in this area, Lakeshore Public Schools recently participated in a countywide professional development event hosted by the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency (BRESA). The focus of this year's training was the meaningful and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence in education.

The keynote speaker, Eric Curts, a nationally recognized expert in educational technology, shared a variety of free AI tools and demonstrated practical ways teachers can use them to enrich classroom instruction. He also emphasized best practices for AI integration and strategies for preventing misuse, such as plagiarism.

We encourage parents and community members interested in exploring these tools to visit Mr. Curts' website: ControlAltAchieve.com.

Lakeshore Public Schools remains committed to preparing students for a future in which AI is a key skill. As our policies and practices evolve, we will continue to communicate updates and learning opportunities with our community.

LAKESHORE WELCOMES NEW PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dustin Slivensky
English, High School

Connor Roberts
Math, High School

Emily Nicholson
Social Worker, High/ Middle School

Julian Sugameli
Social Studies, Middle School

Brianna Anthony
Special Ed, Middle School/ Roosevelt Elem.

Lynn Stover
Literacy Coach, Hollywood/ Roosevelt Elem.

Amanda Hew Len
Special Ed, Roosevelt Elem.

Grace Waldecker
2nd Grade, Roosevelt Elem.

Payton Priebe
Special Ed, Stewart Elem.

Meadow Carr
Art, Stewart Elem.

Margo Ross
4th Grade, Stewart Elem.

2025-2026 Lakeshore High School Golf Teams Sponsors

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible sponsors of the high school golf teams. This generous support plays a vital role in the success of our athletes, providing them with the resources and opportunities they need to excel both on and off the course.

PAR SPONSORS:
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HOLE IN ONE SPONSORS:
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Rx Physical Therapy

FOOD SERVICE

The Lakeshore Food Service staff looks forward to providing you and your student a quality meal program. Lakeshore schools follow the USDA school meals guidelines in menu planning. The monthly menus can be found on the website: lpslancers.net, then click on departments. Go to Food Service and menus can be viewed. You can also find the Child Nutrition and Education Benefit Application on this site. Please fill this out at any time during the school year if you feel you might be eligible for free/reduced meals based on income. Only one application is needed per family.

Please prepay your student's account. No ala carte will be charged. We offer online payments at: www.mymealtime.com. You will need your student's ID number (found in PowerSchool) to create this account. There is a fee for online deposits. Please create an account for viewing purposes. Students can bring deposits to school in an envelope with their name. Elementary students can give deposits to their teachers, MS students can deposit their envelope in a locked box outside the office and HS students can put theirs in a locked box in the office or in a locked box outside the cafeteria in the morning.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Four awarded the Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship

Stevensville – Four outstanding Lakeshore High School seniors have been awarded the Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship.

Josephine Bolt has been awarded $5000.00 in scholarship. She is attending The University of Michigan where she is studying pre-med with the goal of becoming a physician

Hazel Lemon has been awarded $5000.00 in scholarship. She is attending Kansas State University where she is studying agricultural business and sales.

Amri Kuhn has been awarded $5000.00 in scholarship. She is attending Western Michigan University – Lees Honors College and is majoring in Digital Marketing and Photography.

Benjamin Donarski has been awarded $2500.00 in scholarship. He is attending Western Michigan University to study Civil Engineering.

The Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to outstanding Lakeshore High School seniors who represent Adam's hard-working traits and integrity. Adam was a 2001 graduate of Lakeshore High School and 2005 graduate of Michigan Technological University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Adam accepted a position as Civil Engineer at Pearson Construction, before he lost his battle with cancer in July 2006.

Berrien County Dancers Upcoming Events for 2025-26

December 11 & 12
BCD Winter Dance Concert, 7:00 P.M., LHS Community Auditorium

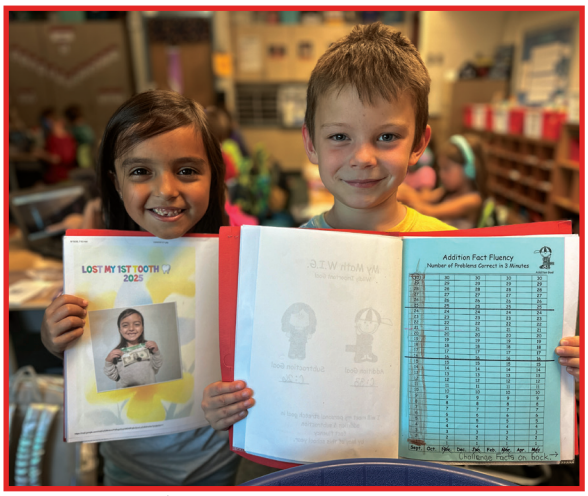
January 21-22
BCD Advanced & Intermediate Dance Auditions, LHS. Details at berriencountydancers.com

Saturday, January 24
BCD Dance Marathon, 9 A.M.-3 P.M., LHS Dance Room. Details at berriencountydancers.com

May 7 & 8
BCD Spring Dance Concert, 7:00PM, LHS Community Auditorium

ELEMENTARY NEWS

Hollywood Students Lead Their Own Learning with Leadership Notebooks



Cami Gallegos & Nolan Wright

One of the many components of the Leader in Me initiative, at the heart of Hollywood Elementary's mission to raise future leaders, is teaching students how to set goals and track their progress. A key tool in this process is the Leadership Notebook.

Research shows that using Leadership Notebooks in the classroom can boost goal achievement by making progress visible, building self-confidence, and fostering a growth mindset. At Hollywood, students use these notebooks to set personal and academic goals, monitor their growth, and reflect on their learning journey. While the content varies by grade level, every student has the opportunity to track both academic and leadership milestones.

Teachers value Leadership Notebooks because they encourage students to take ownership of their learning. Students, in turn, enjoy celebrating their successes, both big and small. Recently, Cami and Nolan, two of Mrs. Butcher's first graders, proudly shared pages from their notebooks. Their celebrations included not only academic growth, such as building math fact fluency, but also personal milestones, like losing a tooth.

At Hollywood Elementary, where the mission is to *Love, Laugh, Learn, and Lead for Life*, Leadership Notebooks are one more way students are developing skills that will guide them well beyond the classroom.

Hollywood Principal Brings Leadership Lessons to Every Classroom

Principal Mr. McIntyre

At Hollywood Elementary, literacy and leadership go hand in hand. Each month, Principal Mr. McIntyre visits every classroom to read a story connected to the *Habit of the Month* from Sean Covey's book *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*. These lessons highlight positive habits such as *Being Proactive* and *Beginning with the End in Mind*, which help students develop lifelong skills for success not only in school, but in life.

The monthly read-alouds have quickly become a tradition that students look forward to. Hearing their principal read and discuss leadership habits reinforces Hollywood's commitment to the *Leader in Me* program and helps students see the value of making strong choices every day.

While Mr. McIntyre is in the classroom, teachers also benefit. Each classroom teacher is given the opportunity to step away briefly and observe a colleague, supporting a culture of collaboration and shared learning among staff. This unique approach allows teachers to strengthen their own instructional practices while students enjoy a meaningful leadership lesson.

Hollywood Elementary's mission is to *Love, Laugh, Learn, and Lead for Life*. Mr. McIntyre's monthly classroom visits reflect that mission by combining the joy of reading, the importance of leadership, and the power of professional collaboration. Together, these efforts help build a strong foundation for both students and staff.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

LAKESHORE LANCERS

Hollywood Elementary Opens Little Free Pantry to Support the Community

Little Free Pantry

Hollywood Elementary is proud to announce the opening of a *Little Free Pantry,* a space where food and essential items are available to anyone in need of extra support. The pantry is not limited to Hollywood families—it is designed to serve our entire community.

The Little Free Pantry is easy to access. Community members can pull into the main entrance at Hollywood Elementary, where the pantry is located at the end of the playground fence. It is open at all times, making it simple for anyone to give or receive support.

This project is possible thanks to the generosity of families and neighbors who continue to donate items. From canned goods to household essentials, every contribution makes a difference. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has already given, helping to ensure the pantry remains stocked for those who need it most.

At Hollywood, our mission is to *Love, Laugh, Learn, and Lead for Life*. The Little Free Pantry is one more way we live out that mission, spreading love in the community while teaching our students the importance of leadership, compassion, and service.

Hollywood Elementary invites everyone to take part in this effort, whether by donating or using the pantry when support is needed. Together, we can continue to uplift and care for one another.

If you would like to donate to support our Hollywood Community food pantry we are always happy to take donations to keep our pantry filled as we are refilling it on a weekly basis. There is a donation box located outside of Hollywood School's front entrance and is labeled "Food Pantry Donations." Our amazon wish list (found in the QR code) has lots of ideas of things we can use or need, but they do not need to be purchased through Amazon. Thank you for supporting us to feed local families!

Roosevelt Student Leadership Team

"Have the courage to be your best self!"

We held our first Student Leadership Team meeting recently. These 12 young leaders took some time to get to know one another, create agreements regarding the values and behaviors they feel will be important to the group as they learn and grow together this year. They met in small groups to discuss how they will share our new PBIS values to the rest of the school.

Have the Courage to Be Respectful, Responsible and Collaborative!

Representatives from 3rd, 4th and 5th grade make up this student group. They will represent their grade level, share information with them and gather feedback around our PBIS initiatives this school year. We are so excited to have this group at Roosevelt. Thank you to Mrs. Godush for helping our students learn and grow!

ELEMENTARY NEWS

COLORFUL BLAST of TEAM WORK

Roosevelt Elementary's 2025-2026 school year has started with a COLORFUL BLAST of TEAM WORK! Roosevelt students, families, and community members have helped the Roosevelt PTO raise over $27,000 for their 3rd annual Color Run Fundraiser! Gold Level community sponsors include Brown & Luczak Family Dentistry, Lunar Martial Arts, Swab Agency Farm Bureau Insurance, Uniquely Print, and Supreme Casting. Students earned individual prize incentives, as well as school wide incentives like hat day, sports day, silly sock day, popsicles/extra recess, and a celebration assembly! Classrooms who met their classroom fundraising goal earned a cotton candy party and a $25 classroom supply gift card. A traveling trophy made it around the school for the class raising the most money each week (spending most of the time in Ms. Gregorich's kindergarten classroom!).

The Color Run was held at Roosevelt Elementary's playground on September 21st where students ran on a track lined with squirt blasters spraying colorful liquid while DJ Dan Hanson provided rockin' music to move to! Munchie Man, Ben's Pretzels, Rico Suave, and Crusin' Cow Tasty Treat food trucks lined the parking lot for families to enjoy along with donating 10% of their proceeds to the PTO! Lots of laughs could be heard during the inflatable costume teacher race! Way to go, Mrs. Mills, who won in the inflatable cow costume!

The celebration ended with a grand finale of color made by color blaster canyons

launched by students who raised over $200!

The Roosevelt Elementary Staff would like to extend a BIG thank you to our amazing PTO board, families, and community members who continue to support Roosevelt and make it a GREAT place to learn and grow every day!

Check out how Roosevelt PTO has used their previous Color Run Fundraiser money to give back and support Roosevelt students, staff, and families!

- **Field Trips**
- **Classroom Supplies**
- **Family Events -** (Skate with Santa, Meet & Greet, Family Breakfast, Seasonal Events)
- **Student Engagement -** (Popcorn Fridays, Walking Program, Read-a-thon, Fun Day, Assemblies)
- **Staff Support -** (Staff Appreciation week, Conference Meals, Gifts)

Some of our "Big Ticket" Items from Color Run proceeds:

2024-2025: a book vending machine!

2023-2024: New picnic tables for the playground and Roosy the school mascot!

Poetry Slam

This past spring, the eighth graders took part in a Poetry Slam where they recited a poem to the class that they had written. The classmates voted for their top three choices within each hour, and middle school staff chose the top three poems. This year's top poets are Eli Timmons with first place for "At Night on the Beach," Ben Baber with second place for "Nature Stays," and Abbey Morris with third place for "Children of Earth." Congratulations to these poets and thank you to our Poetry Slam judges and to Forever Books in St. Joseph who provided prizes to the winning poets.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

LAKESHORE LANCERS

PBIS At Stewart Elementary

Stewart Elementary continues to be a PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) School. PBIS schools use a proactive, evidence-based framework to improve student behavior, promote a positive school climate, and increase academic and social success for all students. It is an adult shift from punishing misbehavior to explicitly teaching expected behaviors, reinforce positive actions, and using data to guide their strategies for preventing problem behaviors and creating a supportive learning environment.

Star Students

Recognizing students who model the behaviors we want to see is a core part of PBIS. This year, each classroom will select three **Star Students** each month. These students are chosen for consistently demonstrating the monthly behavior focus. For example, October's theme was **Perseverance**—students who showed grit and determination in the classroom, cafeteria, or playground were honored. Star Students will enjoy a **special lunch at a fancy table** and receive a treat to celebrate their efforts in upholding our **P.R.I.D.E. expectations**.

PRIDE Brag Tags

At the PBIS Kickoff Assembly, every student received brand-new **P.R.I.D.E. "swag"**—a set of Brag Tags to celebrate their commitment to our school-wide expectations. Together, we reviewed and practiced what it looks like to show **Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Empathy** in every area of the building. Students proudly declared they were "all in!" More Brag Tags will be awarded throughout the year, giving students visible reminders of how invested they are in living out PRIDE each day.

Monthly PRIDE Assemblies

Our monthly PRIDE assemblies, launched last year, are back with some exciting updates! Each month, the entire school will focus on one of our five PRIDE expectations and work toward a shared **behavior goal and reward**. Staff and students will participate in **restorative circles** to reflect on their behavior, share ideas, and set goals for the month. These assemblies bring our school community together, celebrate success, and keep our expectations front and center.

Our Commitment

One of the biggest takeaways from our PBIS journey is that there is **always room to grow**. PBIS has become part of our culture and who we are as a school community. Even in times of change, our dedication to supporting students through positive behavior systems has never wavered.

A huge thank you to all Stewart staff, students, and families for making this important work possible!

LHS History Teacher Travels to Brussels for International Study Tour on EU and NATO

This June, Lakeshore High School history teacher Amy Perkins traveled to Brussels, Belgium, to participate in a unique professional development opportunity focused on the structure and operations of the European Union (EU) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The study tour, coordinated by the University of Pittsburgh's Center for European Studies, was funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education.

During her time in Brussels, Ms. Perkins engaged directly with officials from the European Parliament, NATO, and the European Commission. "This opportunity to speak directly with officials within the European Parliament, NATO, and the European Commission underscored for me the importance of transatlantic cooperation and collaboration," she said. "Trade policy, growing security risks, immigration, the rising cost of living, and climate change are critical policy issues facing the U.S. and Europe. Innovative, effective responses to these developments hinge on our ability to work together."

Highlights of the tour included visits to NATO headquarters and the European Parliament, as well as meetings with leaders from the European Union External Action Service (EEAS) and researchers at the Center for European Policy Studies. "I was able to meet with key officials at the very moment the United States' historic relationship with the EU and NATO was the center of international debate," Ms. Perkins shared. "This access helped me better understand how fluctuations in U.S. foreign policy impact our allies across the pond."

Ms. Perkins plans to bring these real-world insights back to her classroom to enrich students' understanding of the European Union's formation and function, along with NATO's history and current role in global affairs. Additionally, the experience will support the growth of Lakeshore's Sister School Exchange Program with Gesamtschule Hardt in Mönchengladbach, Germany.

At the European Parliament

"Our students live in an increasingly interconnected world," she noted, "and Lakeshore remains committed to implementing programs that nurture our students' development as global citizens. This endeavor remains my primary focus as an educator."

With her fellow participants at the Europa Building where the Council of the European Union meets

A visit to Bruges, Belgium during a free afternoon

ELEMENTARY NEWS

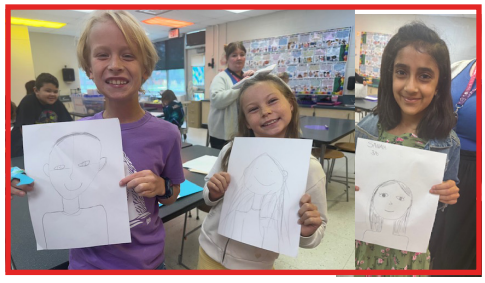
Specials Make Stewart Shine!

At Stewart Elementary, learning doesn't stop when students leave their classrooms—it comes alive in music, art, and PE!

Our specials—music, art, and physical education—continue to be a highlight for students each week. The energy and excitement are evident as they rotate through these classes, building new skills, expressing their creativity, and developing healthy habits.

In **music**, **Amanda Murbach** leads students in song, movement, and instrument exploration. Now in her second year at Stewart, Murbach brings fresh ideas and a passion for music education. A proud graduate of Butler University, she has quickly become a favorite among students, guiding them to find joy in rhythm, melody, and performance.

This year, Stewart welcomed **Meadow Carr** as our new **art teacher**. Carr has infused the art room with enthusiasm and creativity, encouraging students to explore different mediums, techniques, and ideas. Her energy and talent have sparked a renewed excitement for art across grade levels, making every class an opportunity for imagination to shine.



Mrs. Murbach – Music, Mrs. Carr – Art, Mr. Shingledecker – PE

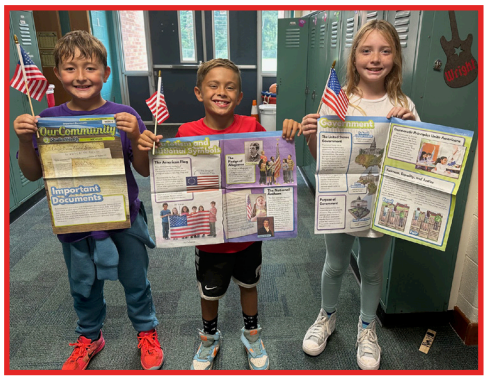
PE continues to be a source of fun and fitness under the guidance of **Andy Shingledecker**. Now in his 21st year at Stewart, Shingledecker's enthusiasm is as strong as ever. He fills each class with movement, teamwork, and joy, inspiring students to stay active while having fun. His long-standing commitment to Stewart is a testament to the positive impact he's had on countless students over the years.

From singing and dancing to painting and drawing to running and playing, Stewart students are thriving in their specials. These classes enrich their school experience and build skills that will last a lifetime.

At Stewart, our specials aren't just classes— they're the heartbeat of learning, creativity, and joy!

Stewart Third Graders Dive Into History

Third graders at Stewart Elementary have been busy learning about our nation's history this fall. Students are exploring important documents such as the **Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights**. In celebration of Constitution Day on September 17, some students even memorized and recited the **Preamble to the Constitution**.They also discovered that the Constitution was officially signed on that same date, 238 years ago.



In addition, students are studying themes of **patriotism** and learning about key **national symbols** like the **American Flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem**. They were fascinated to learn that the National Anthem was written by **Francis Scott Key on September 14, 1814**.

Through these lessons, Stewart's third graders are gaining a deeper understanding of the nation's founding, the values it was built upon, and the symbols that continue to unite Americans today.

HIGH SCHOOL MATH & SCIENCE CENTER EVENTS

The Math & Science Center (MSC) is a high school program geared toward gifted and talented students who enjoy learning and challenging themselves academically.

The MSC freshmen participate in the Berrien County Science Fair every spring. Students in the Class of 2028 who had top finishes in last year's science fair were:

Yalin Genc & A.J. Smit - 1st place in Behavioral & Social Sciences

Augusto Kopp - 2nd place in Behavioral and Social Sciences

Yaman Genc & Grady Smith - 2nd place in Chemistry

Mason Bellinger & Jackson Dinges - 1st place in Computer Science

Kolton Russell & Carson Watkins - 1st place in Engineering Technology

Falisha Haque & Conner Meeth - 2nd place in Engineering Technology

Sydney Thomas & Rorie Tippetts - 1st place in Food Science

Lila Schultz & Abby Whitelaw - 2nd place in Food Science

Whitney Hundt - 1st place in Microbiology

Poisha Bhardwaj - 1st place in Plant Science

Several students also took their science fair projects to the next level and presented at the Michigan High School Research Symposium. Students who participated in the symposium included Mason Bellinger, Poisha Bhardwaj, Jackson Dinges, Yalin Genc, Yaman Genc, Falisha Haque, Whitney Hundt, Erin Luckman, Conner Meeth, Lila Schultz, A.J. Smit, Grady Smith, Abby Whitelaw, and Aditya Yadav.

HIGH SCHOOL SHORE VALUES

Living by the SHORE

At Lakeshore High School, we continue to provide new opportunities for students to gain skills and experiences that prepare them for success after graduation. One of the ways we do this is through our seminar class, which meets four times each week. This year, we have updated the structure of seminar to better serve our students. Our goals are simple: to build community, prepare students for college and career, and provide time to both remediate and accelerate in their learning.

For 9th and 10th graders, Mondays and Fridays are dedicated to exploring our SHORE Values: Show Kindness, Have Integrity, Own Your Growth, Show Responsibility, and Engage Positively. Students apply these values in real-world ways. As Ms. McNabney explains, "We discovered a few years ago that many students were lacking skills with Google applications and knowing when and how to appropriately use AI resourc-

Cntinued on page 11

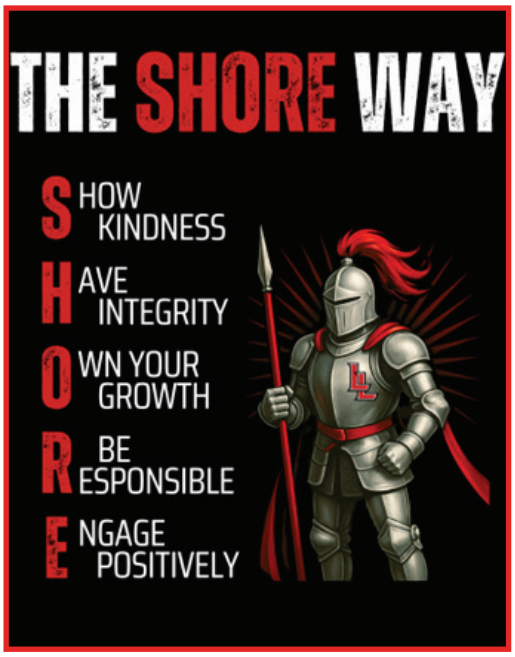
Living by the SHORE - continued from page 9

es, among other things. We realized that if we want students to have certain skills, we should be teaching them. We are using seminar time this year to pair skills (like how to send an appropriate email) with values (like showing kindness)." At the end of the week, students take part in friendly competitions against other seminars, earning points toward a semester-end celebration. These activities build community while giving students the chance to practice key employability skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, students focus on academics with targeted support to either catch up or move ahead.

In 11th and 12th grade, the focus shifts to life after high school. On Mondays, students take part in workshops on topics like resume building and mock interviews. On Fridays, they connect directly with area professionals through guest panels, job shadowing, and workplace visits. Panel professions are chosen by students through surveys, ensuring the opportunities match their interests. Like underclassmen, juniors and seniors use Tuesdays and Thursdays for academic work, meeting with teachers, and bettering themselves academically.

Our hope is that every student leaves LHS with the skills and experiences to make meaningful contributions in their communities. By focusing on SHORE values, practicing employability skills, and engaging with local professionals, we believe our students will graduate prepared to succeed in college, career, and life.

Seminar time at Lakeshore High School is a regular part of our week that gives students the chance to grow academically, build relationships, and gain real-world skills. Meeting four times each week, seminar helps us reach three important goals: build community, prepare students for college and career,



and provide time to either catch up or move ahead in their classes.

For 9th and 10th graders, seminar is rooted in our SHORE Values: Show Kindness, Have Integrity, Own Your Growth, Show Responsibility, and Engage Positively. On Mondays and Fridays, students practice putting these values into action. As Ms. McNabney explains, "We discovered a few years ago that many students were lacking skills with Google applications and knowing when and how to appropriately use AI resources, among other things. We realized that if we want students to have certain skills, we should be teaching them those skills. We are using seminar time this year to pair skills (like how to send an appropriate email) with values (like showing kindness)." Each week ends with friendly competitions where students earn points toward celebrations while also practicing teamwork, problem solving, and critical thinking.

Attendance, academic success and living by the SHORE values also add points throughout the week. One team will take a trip to a professional sporting event at the end of the semester. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, seminar is used for focused academic time where students can get extra support or push themselves further.

For juniors and seniors, seminar looks a little different. On Mondays, they take part in workshops on things like building a resume or preparing for an interview. On Fridays, they connect with area professionals through career panels, job shadowing, or workplace visits, experiences that reflect the careers students say they are most interested in. Part of a well-rounded education includes exposure to people and professions and this time helps us fill this gap. Tuesdays and Thursdays remain a chance to focus on academic work and meet with teachers as needed.

Our hope is that every student leaves Lakeshore with the confidence and skills to succeed after high school. Whether it's building stronger academic habits, practicing employability skills, or connecting with local professionals, seminar time gives students meaningful opportunities to prepare for the future while building a stronger sense of community today.

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